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Brigadier Amer Khammash, Chief of Plans and Operations, Jordan Arab Army, scheduled arrive Washington March 26 to discuss 1) details of US ground deliveries to JAA during calendar years 1965-1966 and 2) possible USG assistance to GOJ in acquiring West European supersonic fighter squadron of 20 planes. Re latter, we plan make general undertaking help Jordan, in cooperation with West European supplier (probably France), to acquire squadron within desired time frame. In further message we will report whatever clarification Khammash can provide on funds available to GOJ for purchase of supersonics. However, it already clear some form credit will be required.

Khammash likely remain several days in Washington and then proceed to Paris, probably via London. In Paris he will weigh all factors bearing on acquisition Mirage IIIC supersonics, including credit terms. Before Khammash's arrival Paris NEA Assistant Secretary Phillips Talbot expected be there for sessions of North Atlantic Council. In view our interest that GOJ fulfill its supersonics requirements from non-American Free World supplier,

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Talbot would appreciate opportunity discuss Jordanian arms purchases with concerned GOF officials. He will be prepared brief French officials on (1) proposed sales of USG ground equipment to JAA and (2) available information on Jordan financial position, outlook for UAC funds, and possible ways in which USG might facilitate Jordan supersonic purchase from France.

Department would appreciate Embassy's/recommendations and DEFREPNAMA's on GOF officials with whom Talbot should meet to discuss Jordan arms problems, particularly supply of Mirage IIIC, as well as information available on preliminary French thinking re Jordan request.

GP-3.

END

RUSK